

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 15 NOV 49

NO. OF PAGES 5

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

25X1

~~THIS~~ IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The SED members among the employees of Wismut A. G. are organized under the Kreisvorstand Wismut of the SED, located at Sigmar-Schönau, near Chemnitz. There are approximately 9,000 members of the SED in the various Wismut enterprises, comprising about 7 percent of Wismut's labor force.
2. The Kreisvorstand supervises the activities of 18 Departments (Arbeitsgebiete), of which Objekt OS (Arbeitsgebiet 02) Oberschlema is by far the biggest. [redacted] it has nearly 22,000 employees, of whom 1870 are members of the SED. Arbeitsgebiet 02 in turn consists of the following 17 Factory Groups (Betriebsgruppen): Shafts Nos. 4, 6, 12, 13, and 15; Transportation Sections Nos. 1, 2, and 3; Fire Department; Mine Police; Administration; Ore Processing; Billeting Section; Hospital; Central Repair Shop; Zwickau Barracks; and Dormitories. The Factory Groups are again subdivided into shift-sections (in the shafts) or subsections (in the other groups). The number of the shift- or sub-sections varies according to the size of the Factory Groups. The biggest Factory Group is Shaft No. 6, where 365 are members of the SED. Shaft No. 6 has 42 shift-sections.
3. [redacted] the above top-to-bottom organization exists mostly on paper. While the Kreisvorstand considers the shift-sections as fully existent and competent to pass resolutions (beschlussfähig), the political activity of the shift-sections is virtually zero. Higher-level functionaries are forced, however, to submit fictional reports on the effectiveness of the shift-sections to avoid the displeasure of the Russian political officers, who are particularly concerned with the effectiveness of the party organization on the lower levels.
4. The lack of effectiveness of the SED party organization is reliably shown by the following quotations from a letter which [redacted] to the SED Kreisvorstand Wismut, Organization Branch, by the Chairman of the Factory Group of Shaft No. 6. The letter is dated 14 July 1949:

25X1

25X1

SECRET

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

2

"Honored Comrades!

~~Subject: Report on the realization of the 1st June 1948~~
~~activities.~~

Since you requested us to submit examples of our factory group activities for the meeting of the Kreis Organization Commission which is to take place on 16 July, I hereby report the following about my factory group:

First of all, I would like to remark that in Shaft Nr. 6 especially there are certain unfavorable conditions which I, as a member of the Kreis Organization Commission, must not disregard.

Regarding Item No. 1:

The labor force of Shaft Nr. 6 has tripled within a very short time. Nevertheless production continues to lag, as it has every month since November 1948. Correction of this condition requires enormous work from the few active comrades. Accordingly we did not find it possible to hold regularly scheduled meetings to promote increased production for the following reasons:

a) In accordance with the directive of the Kreisvorstand, I had to cease my own recruiting and planning activities. The result was that the work was left undone.

b) The functionaries of our factory group were unable to find living quarters in Oberschlema. Result: the work of these functionaries is severely handicapped. We will be able to comply with the provisions of Item 1 of the resolution as soon as a healthier condition for our work can be realized.

Regarding Item No. 2:

The work plans of the Departments (Arbeitsgebiete) are received here around the first of every month. While the FDJ, FDGB, and SED coordinate their respective work plans, each organization follows basically its own schedule.

However, I have some specific remarks concerning the plans as forwarded to us by the Kreisvorstand and the Department:

Comrades! You set us tasks and target dates which presuppose the existence of an active organization functioning down to its lowest level. Otherwise the tasks given us could not possibly be fulfilled. However, you do not consider that the work load on our functionaries is already too great. Burdened down with all sorts of duties resulting from the enormous increase of the labor force, they stand like lone trees in the storm. How do you expect them to organize for a second two-year plan? Where is the oft-proclaimed protection of the cadre? Are you so far up in the world that you can no longer understand the conditions of the workers? Comrades, remember! Your absurd target dates bring us into serious conflicts of conscience,

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

This document is hereby regraded to
 CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
 letter of 16 October 1978 from the
 Director of Central Intelligence to the
 states.
 Next Review Date: 2008

SECRET

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

or possibly into an insane asylum. We tested the effectiveness of our party organization by giving each party member a specific task. As party members in organizational statistics have never paid dues. In addition we found that many so-called party members considered their political duties fulfilled if their wives paid their membership dues once a month. This condition was corrected, and we now collect dues from approximately fifty percent of the party members.

Regarding Item 4:

We have renewed our efforts to organize the lowest levels. We have established 42 shift-sections instead of the 24 we had heretofore. The full development of these 42 sections will require at least two months. However, we ought to have some guarantee that the August production plan will not require the transfer of our newly organized members. It is impossible to create competent and active shift-sections if the work assignments are changed every month.

Regarding Item 6:

There is nothing much to say. You cannot speak of "leading activists" when the organization, as a whole, is inactive.

Regarding Item 7:

We have never seen the work of the PPA-commissions (Personalpolitische Abteilung - cadre section) in our factory group; therefore we are hardly in a position to suggest candidates for such work. The work of such commissions is certainly required. We have a number of membership applications on file which need to be processed. There are individuals who would like to become members of the party and who have been disappointed because no action was taken on their requests. They cannot help believing that we, the party of the new type (Partei neuen Typus), are not too interested in recruiting progressive elements.

The undesirable conditions to which I have called your attention are not caused by the lack of efficiency, or enthusiasm, of the party's functionaries here. They are caused by the exaggerated demands of the Objekt and Departmental managements. Our functionaries have no executive authority. They are being blamed nevertheless for all the red tape and bureaucratic inefficiency. There is no doubt that the SED suffers strongly as a result of the unsatisfactory conditions within the (Wismut) organization. Furthermore, the directives received from higher party headquarters come usually too late. The occurrences of the 7th and 26th of May and the 5th and 6th of June have again demonstrated that our warnings were well justified and that the Objekt, Departmental, and Kreis leaderships have made a serious mistake in disregarding them. Take for example the 5th and 6th of June (Whitsuntide); the Objekt management directed that the 4th and 7th of June are to be regarded as normal work days.

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

5. The views of the Factory Group Chairman are fully endorsed [] 25X1
[] while frequent press reports of concentration camp conditions in Wismut A. G. are grossly exaggerated, the Objekt and Departmental management, as well as the SED Kreisvorstand, live in an atmosphere so far removed from the working conditions and circumstances of the workers that the reasonable demands of the latter are misunderstood and disregarded. For instance, on 25 June 1949 the Chief Organizer of the Wismut Kreisvorstand, Wolf, made inter alia the following statements:

6. [] the actual conditions and the mentality of the workers are far different from what Wolf stated them to be. The failure of the Objekt management to give Whitsuntide furloughs has evoked the widest dissatisfaction among the workers, approximately 70 percent of whom are working away from their home towns. The result was that on the 4th and 7th June in Shaft 6 alone over 49,000 man-hours were lost due to absenteeism. The Objekt management retaliated by withholding food and textile rations from those who absented themselves without leave on account of Whitsuntide. This resulted in further absenteeism, with the result that Shaft 6 fell 30 percent behind on its June delivery quota.

7. The chairman of Kreisvorstand Wismut is Kurt Böhme. Approximately 40 years of age, he is responsible for all activities of the SED, FDGB, and the FDJ in the Wismut area. He was a delegate to the 3rd Volkskongress. Personal description: 6 ft. tall, fat, black wavy hair.

8. Besides Böhme, the following are the full-time, paid functionaries of the Kreisvorstand Wismut:

Organisationsleiter (Chief Organizer): (fnu) Wolf. 35 years of age, he was assigned to his present duties on 1 June 1949. Formerly said to have been an instructor at the Karl Marx School in Berlin. Personal description: 5 ft, 7 in. tall, black hair, pock-marked.

25X1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

25X1

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1

- 5 -

Press, Education and Cultural Referent: Herbert Glöckner, [redacted] Responsible for the [redacted] 25X1
~~Political Education of the SED in~~
Wismut. Supervises the party schools
in Aue, Kirchberg, Schwarzenberg,
and Johann-Georgenstadt. [redacted] 25X1
marxist, but has openly criticized
soviet practices. Description:
5 ft., 7 in.; dark blond hair; slim.
Everyday appearance.

Personnel Section: Herbert Pomp, 45 years old; 5 ft., 5 in;
dark blond, [redacted] 25X1
Under Pomp the Personnel Section
became a small-scale political police.
It investigates candidates for party
membership, maintains surveillance
of suspected members, especially
functionaries, and conducts, from time
to time, investigations concerning
the activities of functionaries
connected with economic matters.
Pomp is assisted by Herbert Lame,
approximately 30 years old, light
blond hair, wears green tweed suit.
Happy-go-lucky.

Youth Section: Manfred Kluge. Responsible for
coordination between the FDJ and the
SED. Charged with the selection of
new candidates for the cadre of the
SED. 24 years old, 5 ft, 9 in.;
blond, long hair, usually wears
double-breasted blue suit. [redacted]

Labor and Welfare Section: Presently unoccupied.

Women's Section: Presently unoccupied.

CONFIDENTIAL
SECRET

25X1